InSphero AG
Wagistrasse 27
CH-8952 Schlieren
Switzerland
Tel: +41 44 515049-0
Fax: +41 44 515049-1
www.insphero.com

Media Release – For Immediate Distribution

InSphero Organ-on-a-Chip Solutions Featured in *SLAS Technology*

Early proof-of-concept studies demonstrate versatility of scalable microfluidic platform for 3D microtissue-based multi-organ models.

Schlieren, Switzerland – January 31, 2019 The February 2019 issue of the scientific journal *SLAS Technology* showcases the innovative, scalable microfluidic platform that inspired InSphero's new organ-on-a-chip system: Akura™ Flow. InSphero Head of Technology and Platforms Dr. Olivier Frey and co-authors from Prof. Andreas Hierlemann's bioengineering lab at ETH Zürich were invited to contribute the article for the journal as top finalists for the prestigious SLAS Innovation Award in 2018.

InSphero has been testing and perfecting organ-on-a-chip solutions since 2011, when the company teamed up with ETH, AstraZeneca and other leading academic groups in the EU-supported research project Body-on-a-Chip, that aimed to mimic the response of the human body as a whole to drugs for safety and efficacy testing. Working in collaboration, microfluidics experts at ETH Zürich and InSphero, were able to refine early prototypes of the system and create the basis for a higher order system suitable for applications such as low clearance assays and metabolic disease modeling. InSphero has since been working on commercialization of the Akura™ Flow system to ensure the operational robustness and trustworthy results demanded by the pharmaceutical industry. Akura™ Flow is also the first technology to addresses important industry needs, such as short setup times of one week and the capability to automatically extract 3D microtissues from the device for downstream next-gen sequencing, histology or other rich endpoints.

Dr. Frey, who spearheads Akura™ Flow product development says, "This is truly an exciting time to be working in the field of biomedical microfluidics. In partnership with our customers, we can now develop a wide range of multi-tissue configurations, from tumor-liver-immune system interactions for cancer research to liver-pancreatic islet communications for the study of metabolic diseases, such as diabetes and NASH. Our technology provides researchers with a completely new tool for studying complex diseases and discovering new cures."

InSphero will be presenting on Akura™ Flow and 3D human tissue models for drug discovery and development at SLAS2019, Feb 2-6, in Washington, DC. The company will also be participating in the SLAS Exhibition and can be found at booth 848.

To read the *SLAS Technology* paper, "Scalable Microfluidic Platform for Flexible Configuration of and Experiments with Microtissue Multiorgan Models", see https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/abs/10.1177/2472630318802582?journalCode=jlad

To learn more about the Akura Flow organ-on-a-chip system, visit https://insphero.com/science/enabling-technology/microphysiological-systems/

For more information about InSphero, visit www.insphero.com.

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Switzerland
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Fax: +41 44 515049-1
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InSphero contacts

Dr. Frank Junker
Chief Business Officer
Phone +41 44 5150490
frank.junker@insphero.com

Dr. Olivier Frey
Head of Platforms and Technologies
Phone +41 44 5150490
olivier.frey@insphero.com

About InSphero

InSphero is the pioneer of industrial-grade, 3D-cell-based assay solutions and scaffold-free 3D organ-on-a-chip technology. Through partnerships, InSphero supports pharmaceutical and biotechnology researchers in successful decision-making by accurately rebuilding the human physiology *in vitro*. Its robust and precisely engineered suite of 3D InSight™ human tissue platforms are used by major pharmaceutical companies worldwide to increase efficiency in drug discovery and safety testing. The company specializes in liver toxicology, metabolic diseases (e.g, T1 & T2 diabetes and NAFLD & NASH liver disease), and oncology (with a focus on immuno-oncology and PDX models). The scalable Akura™ technology underlying the company's 3D InSight™ Discovery and Safety Platforms includes 96 and 384-well plate formats and the Akura™ Flow organ-on-a-chip system to drive efficient innovation throughout all phases of drug development.

For more information, visit www.insphero.com.

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